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PROCEEDINGS

OF

ANNUAL CONVENTION

STUDENT LEAGUE FOR INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY

DECEMBER 1934

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

112 East 12th St.

New York City

MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE
STUDENT LEAGUE FOR INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY
December 27 - 28, 1934
Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.

Forty chapters represented, 1934.

Twenty-one chapters represented Washington convention, 1933.

The convention was called to order at 9:30 a.m. the morning of the 27th by Richard Babb Whitten of Tulane University, National Chairman of the Student L.I.D.

The morning session was given over to speeches on what roles students might play in the labor movement upon graduation. Maynard Krueger, member of the N.E.C. of the Socialist Party, in speaking stressed that it would be unsalutary for the Student L.I.D. to come into close affiliation with any political party at present. Karl Haessler of the Federated Press spoke very wittily about the possibilities for students entering the field of labor journalism. Both talks were highly appreciated, although we cannot take space to give digests of them.

The afternoon session was called to order by Albert Hamilton of the College of the Pacific and member of the N.E.C. of the Student L.I.D. He introduced John Stafford Cripps, fraternal delegate of the University Labor Federation of England who spoke precisely and realistically about the student movement in England stressing especially the difficulty the British socialist students had in raising funds with which to publish any sort of periodicals or have any sort of permanent national organization. He congratulated the Student L.I.D. for its splendid organization in this respect, and he brought greetings from the British socialist students to the members of the Student L.I.D. He spoke about the problem of the united front in England and the anti-war fight. Cripps' speech was enthusiastically applauded.

The convention then moved to send greetings to the following organizations: International Student Congress against War and Fascism in Brussels, Belgium; National Student Federation of America urging endorsement of the student strike against war; Asilomar "Y" convention again urging support of the anti-war strike, and to the American Youth Congress in Washington, D.C.

Telegrams of greetings to the Student L.I.D. were read from Norman Thomas; from the American League against War and Fascism urging affiliation; from the National Student League urging amalgamation; from Valda McNutt of the American Youth Congress; and from the University of Washington chapter of the L.I.D. which is as follows: "Sorry we cannot be represented. Option R.O.T.C. bill to be introduced in legislature twenty-two year old Michael Smith Sponsor of Measure Joined L.I.D. today Best wishes to convention which we hope will make for increased L.I.D. growth and influence in coming New Year" John Clyde, Paul Olson. signatures.

Monroe M. Sweetland and George C. Edwards, Jr., organizers, made a report of their organizational work. See Appendix A. and B.

Joseph Lash reported for the National Office on the George Weissel Fund, the International Socialist Student Federation, literature, press service and "The Student Outlook". See Appendix C. D. E. F. G. respectively.

Justin Stewart made a report on the summer school of the Student L.I.D. for 1934. See Appendix H.

The convention then passed a vote of commendation to the two field organizers and the editor of "The Student Outlook" for their work. Richard B. Whitten, then took the chair, for the election of committees. It was decided to have a Resolutions Committee, Organization Committee, Program Committee, Finance Committee and Constitution Committee.

Resolutions Committee - William Gmberg, M.H.C., Allen Johnson, Univ. of California, George Edwards, chairman, George Mann, Univ. of Chicago, Leon Schull, Temple University.

Organization Committee: Ruth Oxman, Hunter, Downing Naylor, Univ. of Chicago, Ethel Schachner, Brooklyn College, Robert Spivack, Univ. of Cincinnati, Monroe Sweetland, chairman, Anna Caples, ex-officio.

Program Committee: Harold Goldstein, Univ. of Chicago, Fred Graham, Univ. of Missouri, Harold Frison, C.C.N.Y. Frances Willard, U. of Calif. Berkeley, Joseph Lash, chairman.

Finance Committee: Dora Torchinsky, Hunter, Kay Cline, Jesse Reid, Peoples Jr. College.

Constitution Committee: Henry Haskell, Pomona College, Len Lurie, Cornell, Albert Hamilton, College of Pacific.

The session then adjourned for supper where radical songs and good spirits held sway. The evening session reconvened with George Mann of the Univ. of Chicago in the chair. One of the best speeches was heard at this time, given by Albert Goldman, prominent labor lawyer and one of the leaders of the Minnesota strike, on the necessity of understanding theory to be an intelligent radical. Particularly did he impress the delegates with his insistence that student issues were child's play if they did not lead to a realization of student responsibility to the labor movement as a whole and student responsibility for a completely new social order.

Clarence Senior, National Secretary of the Socialist Party closed this session of the program with an analysis of the third party political prospects in the next two years.

The convention reconvened Friday morning at 9:30 a.m. for committee reports. First to make its report was the Organization Committee whose report was given by Ethel Schachner, as follows:

In every college the student members of the L.I.D. should secure the requisite number of members to form a chapter of the L.I.D. on the campus. It is not sufficient to work in some other organization with aim, such as a liberal club, a Y.M. or a Y.W. or International Relations club. There will be a few cases, much fewer than students generally recognize, in which a nucleus organization within some other club is advisable, but this organization should, none the less, be a chartered L.I.D. group which may, when occasion warrants act as an L.I.D. unit. There is probably no organization anywhere which can always do what an L.I.D. would do. Many students think that their "Y's", or I.R.C.'s fill the bill, but it could be stated categorically that they do not. The L.I.D. should meet at intervals itself to take stock of itself within the larger organization. Working with some larger organization with a broader scope makes an excellent opportunity for increasing L.I.D. membership.

Charters - The system of granting charters in the Student L.I.D. has been rather informal. Many groups with sufficient members to receive a charter never apply for one. Other groups consider a charter granted in a former year still in effect, although their membership has dwindled below the requisite number. The charters, up to the present time, have not been numbered or classified. There must be an iron bound system of issuing and revoking charters. Every group with a requisite membership must send in an application for a charter. Between now and next November 1st, every chapter of the Student L.I.D. must secure a charter from the national office. November 1st will be the annual deadline for the reregistration of charters, by which date charters will have to account for their members. If the latter has fallen below the necessary number, they will have to secure new memberships. Charters will be automatically suspended on November 1st, if the membership has fallen below. The chapters will be allowed one semester before their charters are officially revoked and returned to the office. It was recommended that the N.E.C. draw up a more impressive charter. N.B. See amendment to Constitution in regard to charter.

Memberships - In many cases active chapters one year will absolutely disappear with the graduation of the most active members. The National Office should send a list of the chapter members at the beginning of each semester, October 1st and February 1st, noting those whose dues are behind and asking for a check on which students have left college, or have ceased to be interested in the L.I.D. These must be returned by the student representatives. Every student representative should include in a report in March of those students who will be graduating, and the report on those who are going on to another college will be in the following year. It was pointed out that members forget that an initial payment of dues to the L.I.D. does not make them members for life and the national office was instructed to drop all members six months after the expiration of their first year's dues payment. It was voted to establish a dues stamp system on a yearly basis. Every

new member will be sent a membership card when he joins, and has paid his initial dues. This card will contain room for four yearly dues stamps. When a member joins, he will receive his initial stamp marked with the year for which he is credited. The stamp will bear the date of expiration. The chapter secretary will collect the dues at the end of the year and the national office will cooperate by sending a notice, both to the individual member and to the chapter secretary. All dues stamps will expire on either the first of October or the first of March. The membership card will carry a concise statement of the principles of the Student L.I.D. and will specify that it is to be carried at all times for identification.

Student Representatives - It was decided that the name "Student Representative" be abolished, and that a secretary elected by the chapter carry on the correspondence with the national office. This secretary should receive a mimeographed sheet outlining his duties, including an accounting of literature and dates for reports of the national office. Dates for reports should be regulated according to publication dates of "The Student Outlook".

Regional Organization - It is suggested that intercollegiate student councils should be encouraged where there is a large nucleus of college chapters. Regional organizations should be set up in larger geographical regions where there is a concentration of L.I.D. interest and activity. It is suggested that these regional organizations may be able to support regional organizers and that they be made the agency of collecting dues in their regions.

Student Outlook - The Student Outlook loses money on every issue. Only a fraction of the expenses of the magazine are collected from sales on every issue. Each order of Student Outlooks should contain a bill on which will be the definite date when it must be paid. No chapter should receive a further shipment of Student Outlooks until the last bill was paid. The bill should be accompanied by an order blank for the next issue. Chapters have not specified how many copies they were able to sell. A report from the Student Outlook editor contains suggestions as to a much broader circulation of our excellent magazine. Each chapter will have to order a minimum of 10 copies and pay for them. Chapters which do not pay for their Outlooks for two issues running, will receive no more bundles. Chapters will be responsible for seeing that the college library either pays for a subscription to "The Student Outlook" or gets a free subscription. In any case, The Student Outlook must be in the library and chapters are urged to have the Outlook put on sale in the college bookstores.

Special order of business. Monroe M. Sweetland read the following resolutions reprinted on the front page of every Hearst newspaper in the country:

"In the fight of American students for a peaceful world and against impending fascism, enemy agent number one is the Hearst press. Not unmindful of the Chicago Tribune, the Los Angeles Times and other reactionary organs, we must vigorously press our fight against the primary propaganda agent of American Fascism, the newspapers of William Randolph Hearst.

"We are unalterably opposed to international war. The Hearst press incessantly promotes international ill-will, suspicion and hatred; it misrepresents the plans and purposes of other peoples; it daily betrays the Soviet Union; it lends aid and comfort to Jingo Elements by urging preparation of the machinery of slaughter for another war; it serves well the munitions manufacturers and prospective war profiteers by advocating what it calls "Preparedness."

"We are unalterably opposed to fascism in all nations. By praise of European fascist governments, and especially by the recent editorial indorsement of fascism here "if necessary", the Hearst press has assumed the leadership of the drive of desperate capitalism to keep going for a while at the expense of those who toil.

"The Hearst press has pretended to be a champion of the American constitution. In action it has made a scrap of paper of the guarantees of free speech, free press and free assembly. It has indorsed violence as a means of disrupting the meetings against war or for academic freedom called by students in American colleges. It has incited Fascist-vigilante bands to attack students whose political opinions it did not approve.

"In view of these facts, we call upon American students and faculties to exert every effort to boycott the Hearst press. We call upon college editors and best writers to withdraw all support from the Hearst International news service. We call upon students to solicit their families and friends to cancel subscriptions

to the Hearst publications. We call upon all students to use their influence in class and church and field to see to it that the American people recognize for what he is - this errand boy of the war-makers and his press.

"As we resist war and work for peace; as we resist fascism and work for a cooperative commonwealth; as we try to perpetuate the revolutionary principles of the Declaration of Independence and resist the encroachment upon the Bill of Rights; so must we now resist this instigator of violence, promoter of fascism, agent of reaction - the Hearst press."

N.B. The convention was gratified the next day to find its resolutions reprinted on the front page of every Hearst newspaper in the country.

Report of Program Committee was made by Joseph Lash. The emphasis of the Program Committee was on the anti-war strike which will be international in character owing to the decision of the I.S.S.F. The strike was tentatively set for April 5th and is to culminate at 11 a.m. at which time we hope it will be general throughout the country. The slogans of our strike this year were set as follows: "Schools, Not Battleships"; "Abolish the R.O.T.C."; "Fight Against Imperialist War"; "Fascism Means War - Fight It". It was decided that as last year there should be national cooperation between the N.S.L. and the Student L.I.D. The strike has recently been endorsed by the California section of the National Congress of Methodist Youth. It was voted that there be torchlight parades on the evening of April 14th and this time the national office really get out a formula for the making of torches. Careful preparation for the strike during the month of March was stressed. L.I.D. chapters were urged to get the endorsement of Student Councils, college editors, professors, church foundations and, if possible, to get ministers to preach at least one sermon on the strike. On local campuses, the strike should be called by the broadest organization possible, be it either an Anti-War Committee or a Strike Committee. If neither of these can be set up the Student L.I.D. and the N.S.L. should organize the strike. If the N.S.L. does not have a chapter, the Student L.I.D. will alone have to take the responsibility. It was suggested that during the night, white crosses be planted on the campus and that early in the morning, as students are going to breakfast a bugler should play taps and that chapters have permanent anti-war displays in every college. At 11 a.m., if possible, strikers should meet in the college auditorium for an anti-war meeting. If the auditorium cannot be procured, then outside. On the evening of the strike, there should be an anti-military ball.

George Weissl Fund: The Program Committee stressed the importance of raising money for this fund. It pointed out that the George Weissl Fund was the only agency through which money was being raised for work in universities in fascist countries, and it was the only agency through which any students, whether socialists, liberals or communists could get aid. It was decided that the first month of the new semester be set aside for a drive for this fund; that meetings be held on fascism at which time collections should be taken up, and perhaps even student councils would endorse raising money for this purpose. Professors should be approached to contribute. February 12th is the date of the suppression of the Austrian revolt. Its commemoration could be tied up with the George Weissl drive. The national office will send out dime banks to every chapter to which members can contribute when they have odd dimes; and when the banks are filled, they should be sent to the national office. The national office will send out a printed bulletin containing an appeal for the George Weissl Fund which will include a description of the actual work in German and Austrian universities, and the story of George Weissl.

The convention also adopted plans for spring conferences of L.I.D. members and those interested in socialist theory. The purpose of these seminars would be to acquaint L.I.D. members with the great figures of the world radical movement, such as Liebknecht, Jaurès, Lenin, Marx, Luxembourg, etc.; an examination of current trends in the radical movement, discussion of socialism and communism, or a more general program of study of "War, Fascism and Socialism." The national office will send out more bulletins on these study seminars later.

It was recommended that on May Day, all chapters should cooperate with all local socialist or labor groups. If there are no such groups, our chapters are to have a meeting on the campus that day.

The convention voted to make the three arrows the emblem of the heroic Austrian socialists, the emblem of the Student L.I.D. The three arrows, upon which are superimposed the letters "L.I.D." signify, Agitate, Educate, Organize.

A special report was made by George Streater on a program of work in the southern colleges. George Streater has just finished a splendid organizational tour through southern Negro colleges, and he was greeted enthusiastically by the convention. His report is as follows:

"There must be organization work in white and Negro colleges at the same time. This is necessary for many reasons:

- 1 - Legal discrimination effectively isolates the two groups - white & Negro.
- 2 - Cultural segregation creates within the Negro group an unconscious alignment with organized philanthropy which exploits the notion that the rich are the best friends of the Negro."
- 3 - Regional set up begun by conferences - centers like Baltimore, Cincinnati, Richmond, Atlanta, etc. Where L.I.D. work has already been undertaken to some degree. The purposes of such conferences should be:
 - 1 - The development of student leaders within given areas
 - 2 - The breaking down of the segregation laws, customs, mores, etc.
 - 3 - The concentration on local phases of the problems of war, fascism, and the forms of exploitation under capitalism.
 - 4 - To create among southern students a consciousness of their being as part of student groups all over the world.
- B. Education of regional or sectional leaders through summer school.
 - 1 - To make use of all existing facilities like Highlander Folk School for summer conferences of prospective student leaders, on an inter-racial basis.
- C. The use of outside lecturers, etc. sponsored by campus groups.
- D. In Student Outlook, definite, planned articles on southern problems.

Report of Constitution Committee. Attached is a copy of the new constitution as revised at the convention of the Student L.I.D. We have made an X next to those sections and articles which constitute modifications of the previous constitution.

The convention then proceeded to the election of officers and a new National Executive Committee:

Albert Hamilton, expelled from Univ. of California, Los Angeles, because of his refusal to take military drill, and now at the College of Pacific, Calif., was elected National Chairman.

Ruth Oxman, Hunter, N.Y., '33, was elected Vice-chairman
Joseph P. Lush, City College, '31 was re-elected National Secretary.

Other members of N.E.C. are:

Robert Spivack, University of Cincinnati.
Lyonel Florant, Howard University, D.C.
Leonard Lurie, Cornell University, N.Y.
Morris Milgram, expelled from City College of New York.
George Mann, University of Chicago
Fred Graman, University of Missouri
George Clifton Edwards, Jr. Southern Methodist U. Texas, '33, Harvard, '34.
Monroe M. Sweetland, Wittenberg College, Ohio, '30, Syracuse University, re-elec.
Vernon Holloway, Yale Divinity School
Donald Donahue, Southern Branch, University of Idaho
Henry Haskell, Pomona College, Calif.

Nominated - Not elected.

Harold Libros, Temple University, Justin Stewart, Columbia, Howard Frazier, Univ. of Tenn., William Chamberlain, Buffalo, Paul Harris, Howard U. Jean Symes, Univ. of Calif.

Report of Finance Committee was made by Kay Cline. The committee reported on the basis of last year that a minimum budget was \$8000, of which \$6000 came from the adult L.I.D. and \$2000 from the sale of literature and dues. This budget was divided as follows:

Salaries for organizers, editor of Student Outlook and office secretary-	\$3200.
Traveling expenses -	950.
Student Outlook printing	2000.
Three pamphlets - Handbook, Campus Strikes Against War, and Italian Intellectuals Under Fascism	375.
Incidental printing -	100.
Rent	600.
Postage and stationery	500.
Miscellaneous	200.

The assistance that the adult L.I.D. gives to the work of the Student L.I.D. involves no obligation, except consultation in the appointment of paid staff people, and the carrying out of the aims of the L.I.D. - education for a new social order in which production will be for use and not for profit. In addition, the Student L.I.D. has found this relationship valuable because of the exchange arrangement on pamphlets and "The Student Outlook". The committee reported that the existing system of financing the work of the Student L.I.D. was more than satisfactory. However, it recommends that where there are regional councils of the Student L.I.D. groups, these councils look forward to the time when they can finance their own work and especially regional organizations. The convention cordially and unanimously passed a vote of thanks to the Board of Directors of the L.I.D. for their support of the radical student movement in this country.

Report of High School Work given by Hilda Siff. See Appendix I.

A motion of thanks was unanimously carried for Frances Levine, office secretary, and the secretary was instructed to send her a telegram of greetings.

The evening session was chaired by Joseph Lash.

Report of Resolutions Committee - The committee recommended that the Declaration of Principles as stated in the current Handbook was too abstruse, and that the N.E.C. appoint a sub-committee to rephrase it.

The committee recommended that affiliation with the American League against War and Fascism be rejected. James Lerner, representing the Youth Section of the American League was given an opportunity to address the convention urging affiliation. The committee's report was amended allowing united fronts with local groups with the American League. Kenneth Meiklejohn moved a substitute motion that the L.I.D. affiliate with the American League. Amendment and report of Resolutions Committee carried by a vote of 32-15, automatically defeating Meiklejohn's motion.

The convention heard Max Kappie of the National Student League urging amalgamation of the two organizations. With regard to this question the Resolutions Committee reported the following resolution:

"The issue of amalgamation between the S.L.I.D. and the N.S.L. has been placed before the radical student movement. We feel that those who favor amalgamation are not taking a realistic view. They believe that the student movement is almost an entity in itself, and that actions taken can be largely independent of broad union and working class political movements.

"We maintain that the Student L.I.D. is an integral part of the general labor movement and that our activities are designed to strengthen and aid the labor (and socialist) movement. As long as there are strong political differences in the main stream of the labor movement, so long is it foolhardy to expect that the student movement can be a cloistered corner in the American scene.

"Until the labor political movement is unified, amalgamation of student groups with different political orientations is impractical and utopian."

To this the Resolutions Committee added the following substitute motion on amalgamation proposed by Monroe Sweetland. It should be stated that the above motion was not the original resolution of the committee, but was a resolution brought in by a few members of the committee when the original one was found to be completely unsatisfactory. Substitute motion proposed by Sweetland is as follows:

"We renew our United Front pact with the National Student League on specific issues. We look forward to the day when the communist students have, through those united front activities, sufficiently gained the confidence of other radicals so that we may work in the same organization without suicidal interval conflict.

"Just as long as the Communist Party, working through the National Student League, under the guise of non-partisan activity, continues to follow its present sectarian attitude toward other radical organizations, just so long will this stand in the way of the all-essential of good faith in an amalgamated organization.

"We recommend that where chapters find it feasible, local student unions be organized among campus groups. Under no circumstances, is the Student L.I.D. to abandon its own activity (or political orientation)."

The Sweetland motion was amended by Meiklejohn who moved that a committee be set up jointly with the National Student League to investigate possibilities of amalgamation. Meiklejohn's amendment was defeated. Sweetland carried 40 to 9, automatically defeating the motion of the Resolutions Committee. It was moved and carried unanimously as follows:

"As a constituent part of the Continental Congress, we are disappointed by the inactivity of the Continuing Committee. In view of the crisis facing workers we ask our representative to appeal to the Continuation Committee to reconvene the Continental Congress this spring. We feel that it has possibilities of crystallizing the rising tide of sentiment against the present order with an effective agency of change."

The chairman then turned over the session to Albert Hamilton, who congratulated the convention on the facility with which it had done its work and urged everyone to go forward to building a Student L.I.D.

The delegates sang the International and adjourned.

Convention Report of Monroe M. Sweetland, Field Organizer
December, 1934.

In my report I am assuming that the essential part of my report should deal with my work on the west coast. I have already made certain recommendations to the Committee on Organization, and I am omitting, so far as I can, all matter which will be presented in other reports to the Convention.

After the Washington convention last December, I went into Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee for more than six weeks, then briefly into West Virginia, western Pennsylvania, and New England. From March 15th until June 1st, I was in the west, organizing in the mountain and coast states. After the tightening of the industrial and political class lines which developed during the summer on the coast, it was decided that I should return to the west this fall.

In the ensuing three months, I have visited 38 campuses in Ohio, Michigan, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Idaho, Washington, Oregon and California. On these 38 campuses, nine new chapters were organized, at eight institutions no organization was formed, and at two California colleges, units which functioned last year have died. The majority of the campuses, of course, already had functioning chapters. I am indicating on the following table the organizational set-up on the western campuses with reference to anti-radical organizations set up against us, and with reference to the west coast chapters of the National Student League.

	L.I.D. units	Anti-organizations	N.S.L.
Colorado	2	perhaps 1	0
Utah	1	0	0
Wyoming	1	0	0
Idaho	3	0	0
Washington	4 (1 unchartered)	1, perhaps 2	1
Oregon	3	0	1
California	16 (5 " ")	3, " 4	3
Nevada	0	0	0
Montana	0	0	0
Arizona	0	0	0
	30 (6 inactive)	5 perhaps 7	5, (N.S.L. has several high school units)

There has certainly been a considerable upsurge of interest in the field of the L.I.D. since May. In spite of the intense interest in Washington and California in the political campaigns this fall, in which the L.I.D. members participated in large numbers in support of Epic, Socialist, or Communist candidates, I found most of the chapters had started their own organizational activity without prompting from the office. Everywhere I met with exciting narratives of the efforts of L.I.D. members in their home towns over the summer to enlist support for, or directly aid the various strikes, especially that of the Longshoremen. Some had campaigned for EPIC in California and Washington, and in Idaho, Colorado and Oregon, and to a lesser extent in northern California. I found L.I.D.s active in the reorganization of the Socialist Party. But everywhere on the coast this spontaneous upsurge of activity has been met by determined opposition from on high. Administration repression through censorship of speech, press, and organization; the disruption of meetings by administration-fostered "vigilantes", expulsions and suspensions of radical students, and intimidation of faculty members has been occurring to a degree unmatched in American academic history. For a time this may have served as a challenge to liberals and radicals, but any initial stimulus has now been swamped by the effectiveness of the terror. We are endeavoring to reach the only slightly interested or the untouched students. Many of those whose economic status and superior intellect has won them scholarships are much interested in the L.I.D., but are completely vulnerable. A threat from a Dean is usually sufficient to silence them, although here and there one is willing to run the risk. In Los Angeles, I was shadowed by the members of Captain Hynes "Red Squad" for most of the time I was there. At the University of Southern California, the combination of the "Red Squad" and reactionary administration was especially successful in preventing organization. At Occidental they were equally unsuccessful.

... Sweetland report continued:

Difficulty in determining just how many there are

with a constantly larger number of students engaging in L.I.D. activities, membership nevertheless still lags far behind the total it should indicate. I constantly encounter students who are very active in L.I.D. work who, nevertheless, have joined. At Berkeley, for instance, I understand there are about 10 new members since September, yet due to the local system of accounting even student delegates to this Convention were not yet on the national membership lists of the Student L.I.D.

We must immediately systematize the handling of the finances and distribution of "The Student Outlook". With universal praise for the excellence of the editing, I find the most slipshod local systems of distributing and careless accounting of the proceeds.

I am convinced that regional organizations are the best answer to our current shortage of organizers. In the Eastern Washington and northern Idaho District we have set up an Intercollegiate Council, and another is functioning in the northern California area. In Los Angeles our active chapters, with the single exception of Occidental College, are in the suburban cities. It seems to be imperative that the center of an Intercollegiate Council there would be the City of Los Angeles, and we have not yet found sufficiently responsible individuals to assume responsibility. There is, even now, a "paper" organization in the District, but it has not actually functioned this fall. It may be that we have now located the necessary nucleus in the city to carry on the district work.

In summary, I am encouraged with the high degree of serious responsibility many of our members and chapters have taken on the coast. The urgent need now, as last year, is organizers to check up on the work of the units, to single out the most capable students for special work in the larger fields of radical activity, and to correlate the activities of nearby chapters.

APPENDIX B.

Report of George C. Edwards

During the months of October, November and December, 1934, working as field organizer of the Student L.I.D., I visited 51 colleges in 14 states, covering New England, the Atlantic seaboard as far south as Washington D.C. and the midwest. In these areas twenty-three new SLID groups have been formed and from it have come two hundred new student members.

The twenty-three new SLID groups in the areas mentioned vary from the chapters at Wesleyan and the University of Cincinnati which, under very capable leadership, have already taken their places among the best chapters of the SLID to newly formed groups such as Ohio State and Denauw where a few students are energetically trying to ~~ground work~~ on campuses where student radical organization has had no foothold. In general, however, the gain that can be counted in numbers can scarcely be compared to the gain in strength and cohesiveness of organization shown in both the old chapters and the new - and neither of those facts is as important as the spirit of loyalty and the will to action that in the last year has completely changed the character of the student radical field. In the record of activities undertaken by SLID chapters in the last few months we find the real test of the success and the promise of the organization. It can not be too often repeated that the liberal club era has past. Now SLID chapters are organized around issues, to fight campus problems that have social significance, to carry student thought and student activity into the social turmoil around the issues where the battles for a reorganization of society on the lines of an industrial democracy are being fought. The progress in organization, the increase in activity that I have seen indicate nothing as to our success - they indicate a tremendous amount as to the possibilities that lie ahead. We have now an organized work in spots strong in others, coordinated nationally into a central instrument and fired throughout by a real will to action. That's just beginning.

One thing is certain - this is not the time to romanticize our gains. William can be as optimistic as he wants about radicalism in the colleges. The feelings - the colleges are far from red. Today the American college students are skeptical and questioning - they are open on one hand to the appeals of a clever demagogue - and on the other to the appeal of a clear cut radical program that gives the socialist solution in language that they can understand and that, in all, gives them the opportunity to test their ideas in organized and directed action.

APPENDIX C

Report of Joseph Lash National Convention, December, 1934 The George Weissel Fund.

At the last congress of the I.S.S.F. it was voted to set up a fund with which to help the work of the underground student movement in Germany and Austria. The presence of a delegate from the University of Vienna spurred on the establishment of this fund. About a month ago we sent out the first printed announcements asking for contributions. We have not pressed this campaign because of the necessity of raising money to send delegates to our national convention, of raising money to send a delegate to the Geneva Congress and the tag days which some of our chapters conducted for the Scottshero Boys.

However, we strongly feel, and letters that we have received from Austria confirm this, that raising money for this work is extremely urgent and the national office recommends that the month of January be set aside for a special drive in every college to raise money for this fund. To this end the national office will send out dime banks to every chapter as well as collection cans. The collection cans should be used for a tag day if the chapter feels there is enough interest on the campus in the underground work in Germany and Austria. We will send a special bulletin to every chapter describing this underground work, which it can use as a focus of a meeting, or to get into the college newspaper. The dime bank is to be kept until filled and then sent into the national office.

Funds should be solicited from individual students and from faculty people, perhaps even the student council could be persuaded to contribute toward this work. The underground movement in Germany and Austrian universities is made up of liberals, socialists and communists. The only way money can be gotten to this movement is through socialist and trade union channels. The George Weissel fund is the only one set up to get money to these people. No one, communist, liberal, or socialist can therefore beg off from making a contribution on the ground that this is a Socialist fund. It is the only fund in existence. The money goes through the hands of the national office to the Chest for Liberation of Workers in Europe set up by the American Federation of Labor who will see that it is delivered to the proper sources in Europe.

This is a responsibility that we can not fall down on. Too much is dependent on the little that we can do here.

APPENDIX D

Report on the International Socialist Student Federation by Joseph P. Lash

There is no necessity to comment on the Congress held at Liège last August. The Student L.I.D. was represented by three delegates, William Chamberlain, Octavia Edwards, and Joseph P. Lash. This was the first Congress of the I. S. S. F. to which the Student L.I. D. had sent delegates, who were below the age of 40 years, and who were interested in building a student movement. Our presence had a marvelous effect on the morale of the delegates.

The I. S. S. F. publishes several magazines - "The Kentering" for the Socialist students of Holland; "L'Etudiant Socialiste" for the Socialist students of France, Belgium, and Switzerland; "Rote Vorhut" for Socialist students of Austria, now an underground publication; and magazines in Czechoslovakia and Sweden which we have not at yet received. Before the October uprising there was also an excellent student publication in Spain. One of the results of the presence of the Student L. I. D. at the conference this August has been a decided improvement in the quality of these magazines, whose editors were greatly impressed by "The Student Outlook".

The I.S.S.F. also accepted the proposal made by the Student L.I.D. to call an international student strike against war this coming April.

They commissioned the Student L. I. D. to set up a Pan-American socialist student federation, and delegated Joseph P. Lash as member of the executive bureau to undertake that work. We have been in touch with the secretaries of socialist organizations in Central and South America, and are in the process of lining up many progressive and socialist student organizations which flourish in all these countries to a much greater extent than they do in ours. In addition, we have been in correspondence with the student organizations of Hawaii and New Zealand, and have aided the I.S.S.F. in making contacts with the organized student movement of China. As soon as we feel that there has been adequate preparation, we want to call a Pan-American Student Anti-Imperialist Conference.

Jef Rens, newly elected president of the I.S.S.F., one of the most capable and promising of the young leaders in the labor and socialist movement of Europe, indicated that he might be able to come to America in the spring. If he does, we will want to send him on tour to every college in the country, and would like to have indications from chapters as to whether they can contribute towards his expenses. He is a very able speaker, holds a doctor's degree from the University of Frankfurt, and is a member of the crucial commission that governs relations between the trade unions and the socialist party in Belgium.

During the summer, the Student L.I. D. hopes to conduct the following tour:

On bicycles through southern France, studying achievements of municipal socialism in that region; up through Switzerland for a week of study with prominent socialist and labor intellectuals in the beautiful Swiss Alps; over to Vienna, then to Belgium to study the powerful working class movement with its cooperatives, its councils, its people's houses, etc.; then to Paris for united front demonstrations of socialists and communists, with possibly a brief stop in England to talk with socialist leaders there. . . . Approximate cost, \$350.

APPENDIX E

Literature

Since the last national conference, the Student L.I.D. has published three pamphlets. "The Campus Strikes Against War", "The Italian Intellectuals Under Fascism" and "Handbook of the S. L. I. D." These have had a wide circulation. Students and libraries are constantly writing in to secure them, and they have been very useful in educating our own membership. At present we are working on a pamphlet dealing with the reign of "vigilanteism" in the colleges, and another on trustee domination of American universities.

All dollar memberships of the S. L. I. D. have got these pamphlets, along with the following immensely valuable pamphlets published by the L. I. F.: "The Communist Manifesto" with Harold Laski's essay on Karl Marx; "Socialism's New Beginning"; "Incentives Under Capitalism and Socialism". When one considers these seven pamphlets along with a subscription to the "Student Outlook" and the inspiration of belonging to a student movement such as ours, one realizes that it should not be difficult to build up a movement with 25,000 one-dollar student members.

APPENDIX F

Press Service

The national office this fall undertook the experiment of a press service, sending out each week to 300 college newspapers an intercollegiate press service containing news of interest to students written from the angle of the Student L. I. D. This service has been carried in many college papers. It can be immensely improved. Again the lack of adequate staff facilities at the national office makes its appearance irregular and its coverage of the field inadequate.

Chapters can assist the press service by sending in stories from time to time that should be included. They can also help us by recommending people who might be of assistance in running this service.

APPENDIX G

Report of THE STUDENT OUTLOOK Joseph P. Lash

Since the last convention of the Student League for Industrial Democracy, five issues of "The Student Outlook" have been published - February, March, May, October, November-December. The printing cost for this magazine was \$1500. "The Student Outlook" is published in two editions. The Student Edition goes to all one-dollar members of the S. L. I. D., and is sold generally on the campuses. The L. I. D. Edition goes to the general membership of the League for Industrial Democracy. Both editions carry sixteen pages of the same material, but eight pages of the Student Edition are removed, and material considered more suitable to the general membership is substituted in the L. I. D. Edition. It has been a delicate problem at times to include in the material for both issues articles that would be of interest to students, and to the general membership. The average present run for the two editions has been 4000 on each.

Name

At our convention two years ago at Barnard College at New York, it was voted to change the name from "Revolt" to the "Student Outlook". This name was not greeted enthusiastically, but it carried because no other could be found which would provoke less violent objections. Today the name is well established and known in colleges from coast to coast. It is the character of our magazine that has made the new "Student Outlook" an acceptable name.

Circulation

This is the most doleful section of our report. Every successive issue of the "Student Outlook" has provoked enthusiastic comments from persons who have seen the magazine. At the same time it has brought enquiries such as "Where the hell can one pick up a copy of 'The Student Outlook'?" also "Why did you keep your magazine hidden?" etc. The national office has tried to spur sales of "The Student Outlook" in various ways. We reduced the cost to the chapters from 8 ¢ to 5 ¢ per copy; we have shouldered postage costs ourselves; we have sent posters; despite all these things, most of the chapters keep the magazine on their locker shelves; none makes any real attempt to get it out to that part of the student body which should be reading it, or if the magazine is sold, few people bother to send in any money for it.

We are not even going to say how much has been turned in, because the figure is so insignificant. Therefore, we recommend the following:

1. That each chapter should get enough copies to cover the following groups of people:

Continuation of report by Jos. P. Lash on "The Student Outlook"

- a. L.I.D. members who are only class "B" members, and therefore do not get "The Student Outlook".
- b. Enough copies to supply every member of the chapter with five to sell to their fellow students on the campus.
- c. Enough copies to cover campus book-stores and newsstands.

2. An immediate estimation of the number of "Student Outlooks" that can be sold so that if a chapter asks for 25, it will have to pay for 25 and return none of them. This will enable the board to determine in advance exactly how many it should print.

Advertising

In ancient days when "The Student Outlook" was "Revolt" and the editor was merely the editor, he could spend some time hunting for advertisements. It was then that we caught that full page advertisement from Macmillan Publishing Company. Since that halcyon, the editor has been saddled with united front duties and national office responsibilities, and consequently there has been no systematic attempt to explore and exploit the many possibilities for advertising such as clothing, books, liquor, etc. The board has tried many times to get a capable young man, or woman, recently out of college to take over the job of advertising manager, and build it up for themselves. All our endeavors so far have been unsuccessful. Chapters can aid in this respect by getting local shops to advertise in "The Student Outlook". The rates are \$15 for 1/4 page; \$25 for 1/2 page; \$40 for full page for one insertion.

Editorial Policy

"The Student Outlook" is the official organ of the Student L.I.D. As such its editorial policy represents the policies adopted at our national convention, as interpreted by the editorial board. Your board has, during the past year, tried faithfully to interpret that policy and believes it has been successful.

Editorial Board

The editorial board is selected on the basis of ability and geographical representation. The fact that our board has been scattered all over the country has made it difficult for it to function. However, in large part the failure to function has been due to the editor's failure to get them to function. The latter has been saddled with so many duties that he has not been able to maintain the correspondence necessary to make our far-flung editorial board an active editorial board. Up to last June, we had an active steering committee in New York. Many of the members of this steering committee have this fall had jobs in Washington or elsewhere, and have been unable to participate. Your editor is in the middle of reconstructing a committee amongst undergraduates in the New York area. He feels that it is possible for a widely distributed editorial board to have an effective hand in publishing "The Student Outlook".

Recommendations to Chapters

Chapters can aid the editorial board by keeping their eyes open for promising young writers and getting them to submit material to the Outlook. If there is any criticism of the magazine for failure to run enough student articles, or articles by undergraduates, that is a result of not having a wide enough field of submitted manuscripts to choose from. Chapters should also see to it that there is a constant flood of letters coming to "The Student Outlook" that we can use in our "Free For All" page, and there is one article which every chapter writes, "Agitate, Educate, Organize". If the chapters do not make material by their activities for this section, this article is pallid and uninteresting. Otherwise, it is the most exciting in the magazine.

Prompects

There are one million college students in America. If the Student Outlook could reach 25,000 of these, its printing costs would be met, and the Student L.I.D. would have that much more influence. There is no reason why it cannot attain a circulation of 25,000 except our own failure to get it out among the students. That means each one of us making ourselves responsible for the sale of a certain number of copies.

Report of Justin C. Stewart
National Convention December 1934
On the Summer School.

After various hectic and interesting experiences first of raising the necessary funds, and then of hitch-hiking from all parts of the country, we arrived in New York on Thursday June 21st just in time to go to Bound Brook New Jersey to attend the Summer Conference of the L.I.D. The Conference alone was worth our trip. It is hard to describe the thrill we outsiders got by meeting Norman Thomas, Bradus Mitchell, J.B. Matthews, J.B. Lovestone, Harry Laidler, Reinhold Beibuhr, Roger Wildwin, and many others of whom we had heard so much and whose works we had read. It was indeed a fitting entrance for bewildered radicals from the "provinciades" into their first real experience in the radical movement.

We returned to New York after the Conference on the 24th to begin the work of the school. The program was divided into two divisions, the practical and the theoretical. The latter was provided for every morning in classes on such subjects as the Negro problem, Civil Liberties, History of the Labor Movement, The Technique of Organization, the Technique of Propaganda, etc. These were all conducted by competent leaders, chosen for their special ability in the particular field.

The practical side of our training came through our activities in the Workers Unemployed Union which has many locals throughout the city. Each student was assigned to a local of which he became a member. The Union had many street meetings and needed speakers so it offered a marvellous opportunity for the development of our speaking abilities. (I'll never forget how an egg just missed me the first time I got up on the stand on Hudson and Perry streets). We also had the opportunity of meeting and associating with the real proletariat, learning what they like, and dislike, how to approach them, etc.

Picketing the Bergoff detective agency which was furnishing scope for the longshoremen's strike, and in the Kait-Goods strike, were another part of our practical experience. A third type of practical experience that wasn't planned for but that came up and added excitement to the whole thing was our un-invited participation in the Choose-a-Career conference sponsored by L. S. Berger Co. of Newark, and the First American Youth Congress sponsored by Viola Ilma and held at New York University on August 15, 16, 17. In the former, we succeeded in being most embarrassing to such stuffed shirts as Bruce Barton, Kermet Roosevelt, James P. Warburg and James D. Mooney by simply asking them how we could get jobs in their respective "Career" fields. As to the Youth Congress, we, with the help of a number of other organizations, succeeded in turning it from practically a Fascist lay-out to one which has an almost socialist program.

Who were the students at the school, and what effect did it have on them as evidenced by their present activities? Carl Campbell of the University of Denver, Colorado, is back in school this year doing a marvellous piece of work in handling one of the largest L.I.D. Chapters in the country. George Edwards from Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Tex., and Harvard, is now a full time organizer for the Student L.I.D. Wallace Campbell from Oregon was immediately after the summer school given a job by the American Cooperative League and is at present an editor of their official organ. Waldo McNutt from Washburn College in Kansas is working for the American Youth Congress. Rhoda Pearson from the University of New Hampshire was given a scholarship at Brookwood Labor College, and is an outstanding student tutor there. Ralph Rudd, also from New Hampshire, is this year back at the University of New Hampshire. Howard Frazier from Tenn. is teaching this year and has been doing some very good work of organizing and corresponding with the L.I.D. Ralph Price from Kansas Teachers College is working in a Cooperative Store in Chelsea, Mass. Esther Ledderman is doing good work in the Chapter at Hunter College (New York City). Lionel Florant came from Fiske University and is at Howard (Washington D.C.) this year actively working for the L.I.D. Juanita Pope from Bennett College in North Carolina is teaching this year and has taken several week-end organizing trips which have been very valuable in the way of getting organization among the southern Negroes. And I, from the University of Utah, was granted a scholarship at Teachers College, Columbia in Workers Education, and the principal reason I got it was because of my activity in the L.I.D. summer school, and the experience I had received during the summer school in the labor movement.

The fact that these people have all gone back and entered some phase of the labor movement, education, organizational or cooperative is in my opinion the indubitable evidence of the worth of the enterprise. Personally I strongly urge people to take advantage of the summer school opportunity because I consider it the most outstanding and far reaching experience of my life. The only thing that could make next year's school better would be to have a larger proportion of undergraduates so that the Student L.I.D. could get a greater benefit from their activities on the campus.